

EDUCATION

Updates

16 May 2020

SOUTHEAST ASIA

ASEAN, May 4 [ASEAN Secretariat News]: Finalists for 2020 ASEAN-U.S. Science Prize for Women announced. The ASEAN Committee on Science, Technology, and Innovation (COSTI), the U.S. Government through the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) and Underwriters Laboratories, are proud to announce the national finalists for the 2020 ASEAN-U.S. Science Prize for Women which includes Dr. Wida Susanty Suhaili from Brunei Darussalam. [LINK](#)

Cambodia, May 13 [Phnom Penh Post]: School reopening to be postponed until November. Minister of Education Hang Chuon Naron on Tuesday wrote to Prime Minister Hun Sen requesting a delay of school reopening across the Kingdom until November, when the new academic year begins. [LINK](#)

Indonesia, May 14 [The Jakarta Post]: Women's contributions to education not reflected in leadership roles. Despite being more active in their students' development and education, women rarely go on to lead elementary schools as headmasters, especially in rural and remote areas. [LINK](#)

Lao, May 10 [ASEAN Post]: Giving Lao's Girls A Better Future. Over the years, there have been more girls attending schools and completing their studies with many focusing on their careers and a bright future. Girls are also leading global movements on issues ranging from climate change and poverty to gender-based violence and child marriages, proving themselves to be unstoppable. [LINK](#)

Malaysia, May 10 [Bloomberg]: Malaysia Extends Relaxed Lockdown Until June 9 to Contain Virus. Malaysia will extend its relaxed lockdown by four weeks, allowing nearly all economic activities to continue while keeping its borders shut and schools closed. [LINK](#)

Malaysia, May 12 [Malay Mail]: Report: Education Ministry mulls limiting class size to 17 students after MCO. Education Minister Senator Mohd Radzi Jidin conceded that the SOPs will be challenging for teachers who must ensure students are well-prepared to face the new norm. [LINK](#)

Myanmar, May 10 [SciDev.Net]: New study a call to action for Myanmar's mangroves. A new study by the National University of Singapore (NUS) has found that mangrove deforestation in Myanmar is taking place at a faster rate than previously estimated. [LINK](#)

Philippine, May 12 [Philstar.com]: UP experts spot 'alarming errors' in DOH's COVID-19 patient data. The University of the Philippines COVID-19 Pandemic Response Team in their policy note released Tuesday pointed out errors and discrepancies in the Department of Health's data on COVID-19 patients. [LINK](#)

Singapore, May 15 [Straits Times]: All staff at pre-schools to undergo swab tests for coronavirus. Tests will be done until May 26 at four segregated centres in polytechnics. [LINK](#)

Singapore, May 11 [Channelnewsasia]: Direct School Admission applications to open May 12, selection process tweaked due to COVID-19. Students applying to secondary schools and junior colleges through the Direct School Admission (DSA) exercise for entry in 2021 will be able to do so from May 12. [LINK](#)

Singapore, May 15 [Business Times]: Healthcare, education SMEs get more help to digitalise amid pandemic. The Infocomm Media Development Authority (IMDA) and Enterprise Singapore (ESG) have added new teleconsultation and learning management system (LMS) solutions to the list of solutions that SMEs in these two sectors. [LINK](#)

Thailand, May 14 [Bangkok Post]: 17 new digital channels sequenced for education. The National Broadcasting and Telecommunications Commission's (NBTC) board approved on Wednesday the sequencing of 17 new digital TV channels for education run by the Education Ministry, comprising channels No.37-53. [LINK](#)

ASIA PACIFIC

Asia-Pacific, May 15 [UNICEF]: This is how we keep children learning, no matter the challenges. No internet, no TV, no books, pens or paper? No worries. [LINK](#)

Australia, May 16 [Sydney Morning Herald]: How COVID-19 exposed the fault lines in Australian education. There were balloons, banners and beaming smiles when students began returning to classrooms this week. In its 170-year history, the NSW school system has rarely seen such excitement; some kids declared it was better than their birthday, and others were in tears when it was time to go home. [LINK](#)

Australia, May 14 [Australian]: Jim Barber has a five-step plan for higher education. Now that the coronavirus has obliterated Australia's international student market, universities are once again pleading with the government for money. The Australian public has grown accustomed to universities complaining about being unappreciated and underfunded but their tone is more desperate these days because their situation is so dire. [LINK](#)

Japan, May 4 [Nikkei]: Myanmar to launch its first satellite in 2021 with Japan's help. Myanmar plans to launch its first satellite in 2021, using Japanese technology. Engineers and researchers in the country will develop an ultrasatellite and launch it into Earth orbit with the help of Japan's Hokkaido University and Tohoku University. [LINK](#)

India, May 4 [Hindustan Times]: CBSE to implement competency-based education system, schools to impart practical and life skills. NCERT has formulated a four-week activity based alternate academic calendar for grades 1 to 10 to help students acquire competency based education (CBE). [LINK](#)

ASIA PACIFIC (CONT'D)

PR China, May 12 [Xinhua]: Chinese gov't adopts suggestions, proposals for solving education problems. Last year, the ministry handled 1,879 suggestions and proposals, covering aspects such as pre-school education, campus security and education quality. [LINK](#)

RO China, May 15 [Taiwan News]: Taiwan holds 'children only' press event on coronavirus. Elementary and junior high school students posed their most pressing questions about virus. [LINK](#)

RO China, May 15 [Taiwan News]: Taiwanese, Australian scientists join forces to test Ivermectin to fight coronavirus. Taiwan's Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST) announced that academic institutions in Taiwan and Australia will be teaming up to research the effectiveness of the drug Ivermectin in fighting the Wuhan coronavirus (COVID-19) as well as developing other antiviral drugs. [LINK](#)

South Korea, May 15 [Pulse News]: South Korea celebrates Teachers' Day remotely, pres vows to upgrade digital education. Korean students thanked their teachers in creative videos and online postings on Teachers' Day, a day observed to pay gratitude to the teaching profession. [LINK](#)

EUROPE

Europe, May 12 [TES News]: 'Mixed evidence' from Europe on school reopening safety. Evidence from Europe on the safety of reopening schools during the coronavirus pandemic is "mixed", an expert said. [LINK](#)

Europe, May 15 [Council of Europe News]: No Hate Speech Training Course goes online. The Council of Europe's Youth and Anti-Discrimination Department organise jointly the No Hate Speech training course which aims to strengthen the competences of multipliers and advocates in the youth and Human Rights field to promote the Council of Europe standards and approaches to addressing hate speech, with a specific focus on counter and alternative narratives through human rights education. [LINK](#)

France, May 14 [Republic World]: Kids Made To Sit In Chalk Squares In School To Maintain Social Distancing. Children going back to school in France have to still follow social distancing rules. [LINK](#)

Germany, May 12 [Irish Times]: German secondary school state exams continue despite opposition. The decision to press ahead with state exams has annoyed many students, parents and teachers, who say the risks outweigh the benefits. [LINK](#)

Spain, May 15 [El País]: For Spain's youngest students, no going back to school this academic year. There are no plans to reopen public early education classrooms – for children up to six years of age – before the end of this academic year. [LINK](#)

United Kingdom, May 10 [Guardian]: Uncertainty over schools reopening takes huge toll on headteachers. Prospect of resuming lessons while dealing with safety issues is leading to high anxiety levels. [LINK](#)

AMERICAS

Canada, May 12 [Associated Press]: As U.S. Closes Door On International Students - Canada Welcomes Them. President Donald Trump recently signed a proclamation restricting immigration for 60 days. [LINK](#)

Canada, May 15 [CIC News, Canada Immigration Newsletter]: Canada announces major study and work visa change for fall 2020. International students will be able to enrol in online courses while abroad this fall and still be eligible for a Post-Graduation Work Permit after moving to Canada. [LINK](#)

United States, May 11 [Forbes]: Four K-12 Education Models That May Gain Popularity During COVID-19. Most families will be eager to resume their previous routines [but] some families may be curious about K-12 education models that favor personalization, small group learning environments, high-quality virtual programming and other innovative alternatives. [LINK](#)

AFRICA & MIDDLE EAST

Lebanon, May 12 [Inter Press Service]: UNESCO and Education Cannot Wait provide the Ministry of Education and Higher Education with online learning material for teachers and students. [LINK](#)

Morocco, May 13 [Morocco World News]: Education Minister Asks Vocational Training, University Students to Be Ready for Exams. The Minister of Education announced Morocco's decision to cancel all exams at primary, secondary, and high schools, except for the first and second year baccalaureate students. [LINK](#)

EDUCATION ARTICLES

Global, May 7 [[Newsletter of National Commissions April 2020]: Global Education Coalition #LearningNeverStops. The coalition seeks to facilitate inclusive learning opportunities for children and youth during this period of sudden and unprecedented educational disruption. [LINK](#)

Core Education, May 7 [Newsletter of National Commissions April 2020]: Plan for school reopening. For more advice and information for education planners and decision-makers. [LINK](#)

Core Education, May 7 [Guardian]: Prioritise play when schools reopen, say mental health experts. Child mental health experts have urged the government to prioritise children's play and socialising with friends over formal lessons and academic progress. [LINK](#)

Higher Education, May 12 [World economic forum]: How COVID -19 is driving a long-overdue revolution in education. While traditional institutions once viewed online education as a threat, it has come to their rescue. [LINK](#)

Higher Education, May 13 [Study International]: It's time for universities to revolutionise financial education. Here's why. explosive growth of fintech use at a time when most sectors of the global economy are slumping. [LINK](#)

Research, May 14 [Vox]: How the coronavirus is changing science. Research needs to be shared faster. [LINK](#)